

# ISL: It's advantage Jamshedpur FC 2-1

**AGENCIES, JAMSHEDPUR:** Jamshedpur FC defeated Mohun Bagan Super Giant 2-1 in the first leg of semi-final in the Indian Super League played at the JRD Tata Sports Complex, here, on Thursday.

The Khalid Jamil-coached side held merely 26.9 per cent of the possession against the League Shield Winners in this match. However, they were efficient in converting their

## ISL: FIRST LEG SEMI-FINAL

opportunities, scoring twice from the four shots they took on target with the winner coming in from Javi Hernandez in injury time.

An eventful start to the first half saw Jamshedpur FC garner the advantage in the contest riding on the aerial prowess of Javi Siverio and Stephen Eze. The

towering defender's awareness inside the 18-yard box saw him deliver a headed pass to Siverio, stationed at extremely close range in the 24th minute.

The Spaniard had to simply nod the ball into the bottom right corner as the Mohun Bagan Super Giant defence was unable to thwart the link-up play, thus conceding a vital lead to the Red Miners.

Mohun Bagan Super Giant sparked their intent almost immediately though, moving cohesively in tandem to ask questions to the Jamshedpur FC backline. Greg Stewart's clinical eye for a pass met Alberto Rodriguez inside the penalty area, and though the defender did well to meet the delivery, he could only rattle the crossbar with his eventual effort.

Mohun Bagan Super Giant had their decisive moment in front of the goal in

the 37th minute, courtesy of an impeccable free kick from Jason Cummings.

The striker has donned a host of roles in the current campaign, often coming off the bench to capitalise upon the tired legs of the opposition and bag late goals. Tonight was a tad different though, as he stepped up on set-piece duties and buried the opportunity with tremendous precision into the top right corner with his left foot to equalise the scores.

The visitors began the second half with similar momentum, as Anirudh Thapa served Stewart a well-weighted ball in the left side of the box, which the former Jamshedpur FC star could not dispatch into the back of the net due to a weakened final effort in the 51st minute.

Though Jamshedpur FC spent a significant chunk of

the second essay absorbing pressure, they did find the second goal in their trademark style after a fast break in the added time.

The Red Miners carved open the MBSG structure with a string of passes that was executed flawlessly. The sequence capped off with Ritwik Das finding Javi Hernandez in a pocket of space in the centre of the box that the Spaniard shot high into the centre of the net to grab his side an important advantage going into the next match.

The two sides will next play in the second leg of their semi-final fixture in Kolkata on April 7.

## RESULT

**Jamshedpur FC 2 (Javi Siverio 24', Javi Hernandez 90+1') Mohun Bagan Super Giant 1 (Jason Cummings 37')**

## Tamil Nadu's Nichani claims Masters National Snooker Championship

HERALD PIC



Billiards Snooker Association of Goa (BSAG) President Saeesh Hegde, Treasurer Kewal S Kane, Secretary Jagdish Badiger, chief guest Adesh Karwarkar with winner Vijay Nichani and other players at Master's National Snooker Championship 2025 held at the Cue Sports Academy, Athletic Stadium, Cujira, Bambolim, recently

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**MARGAO:** Tamil Nadu's Vijay Nichani scripted a career-defining moment at the Cue Sports Academy, Bambolim, recently. The week-long tournament, hosted by the Billiards and Snooker Association of Goa (BSAG) under the aegis of the Billiards

and Snooker Federation of India (BSFI), saw Nichani overcome multiple pressure situations before lifting the trophy. Kamal Chawla (RSPB) secured third place after an equally intense play-off against Rushabh Jain (MAH), demonstrating the

championship's competitive depth. The closing ceremony saw chief guest Adesh Karwarkar, join BSAG President Saeesh Hegde, Secretary Jagdish Badiger, Treasurer Kewal Kane and BSFI Vice President Sunil Morajkar in honouring the winners.

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## Sporting Clube maintain away form with a win

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**MANIPUR:** Sporting Clube de Goa maintained their impressive away form with a 1-0 triumph over Tiddim Road Athletic Union (TRAU) in the All India Football Federation I-League 2, at Khuman Lampak Stadium, here, on Thursday.

Vikram Venkatachalam netted a crucial second-half goal, helping his side secure all three points. With the win, Sporting Clube moved to 25 points from 13 matches, while TRAU stayed at 8 points.

The first half began with an impressive play as striker Vikram threaded a pre-

cise pass along the floor to Naocha, who squared it up perfectly for a brilliant opportunity but the attack came to nothing. However, another cross soon took a deflection over Vikram and dropped just beyond Naocha, narrowly missing a chance.

Biswa Dare-gee then went for a curler, aiming for the top corner, but his effort missed the target. Moments later, both Biswa and Dare-gee missed a high cross intended for the far post, unable to capitalize on the opportunity.

As the first half drew to a close, Doyal Alves

passed it to Sushil Meitei, but his shot sailed over the post, unable to break the deadlock. The first half ended in a goalless stalemate, with both teams failing to find the back of the net.

In the second half, the visitors pushed hard for a breakthrough. Sushil sent a well-weighted pass to striker Vikram, but couldn't convert, missing a golden chance. Sporting Clube de Goa kept up the pressure, trying to unlock the home side's defence.

Six minutes into the second half, Captain Dattaraj Gaonkar took a shot following a corner from midfield-

er Biswa, but unfortunately, he over hit it, sending the ball wide of the target.

As the game neared its end, Vikram came close with a powerful volley that rattled the crossbar, just inches away from giving the visitors the lead. But with only three minutes remaining, Vikram finally found the breakthrough in the 88th minute, netting his second goal of the season - his first from open play - to give the visitors a late lifeline in an intense encounter.

Sporting Clube de Goa will next be in action against Neroca FC on April 11, at Khuman Lampak Stadium, Manipur.

## I-LEAGUE 2

## Margao Strikers tennis ball cricket champions

INACIO NORONHA



The winners along with the dignitaries at the MCC ground, Margao, recently

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**RAIA:** Margao Strikers defeated Patkar XI by 7 runs in the final to emerge winners in the All Goa Tennis Ball Cricket Tournament

organised by the South Goa Advocates Association at the MCC ground, Margao, recently.

Batting first, Margao strikers scored 27 in 4 overs. Patkar XI lost by 7 runs. Margao Strikers Tejal

Borkar was awarded the man-of-the-match (final), Saish Shirodkar was the man of the tournament, Best bowler was Harshal Ghate of Prosecution Warriors and best batsman Co-burn of United Brothers.

## Divya 'tricks for Krida Prabodhini, Garhwal Utd win

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**MAPUSA:** Krida Prabodhini, Pune, had an easy outing as they humbled hosts FC Tuem by 7-0 margin in the Indian Women's League 2 match played at Duler Stadium, here, on Thursday.

FC Tuem eves managed to hold Krida Prabodhini goalless till the 34th minute where their skipper Jossel Mascarenhas saw the ball hit her feet and rolled into her own goal, 1-0.

There was no looking back for Krida Prabodhini eves with Divya Pawar receiving an through pass from her skipper Rani Kadam, to guide the ball into the goal, 2-0.

On crossing ends, Divya pumped in two more goals to complete her hat-trick with Sumayya Sheikh netting a brace and Sakshi Sheikh completing the rout, 7-0.

In the morning match, title aspirant unbeaten Garhwal United FC registered a 2-0 win over SAG Football Academy, Gujarat. Garhwal United Club eves scored a goal in each session of play through Lhingdeikin and Mangping Khongsai.

## Peddem Bomm SC in semis

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**RAIA:** Peddem Bomm Sports Club scored an easy 4-0 win over Sinquerim Sports Club to move into the semi-finals of 17th London Trophy Inter-Village Football Tournament 2025 organised by Goa Velha Sports Club at the club ground, Goa Velha, on Thursday.

## 17TH LONDON TROPHY

Peddem Bomm SC opened the scoring through the boots of Faheez Mohammad in the 13th minute of play. Mohamad Azur made it 2-0 in favour of Peddem Bomm SC when he headed into the Sinquerim SC net in the 17th minute. Peddem Bomm SC led by two goals at the break.

Samuel D'Souza made it 3-0 in favour of Peddem Bomm SC in the 40th minute. Santosh Bhulan sealed the win in favour of Peddem Bomm SC when he tapped past Suraj Naik



General Secretary of Goa Velha Sports Club Bryan Pegado presents the man-of-the-match award to Faheez Mohammad of Peddem Bomm Sports Club

in the Sinquerim SC goal in the 54th minute. Krepal Dhargalkar of Peddem Bomm SC and Krish Naroji of Sinquerim SC were cautioned by the match referee Rohidas Bhomkar. Peddem Bomm SC will meet Parish Youth Nuvm in the semi-final on April 6. Faheez Mohammad of Peddem Bomm SC was awarded the man-of-the-match by Bryan Pegado, general secretary of Goa Velha Sports Club.

## Verna Veterans to face Vasco in quarters

**Team Herald**  
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**PANJIM:** Verna Veterans put it across Varca Veterans 2-0 to enter the last-eight stage of the Santa Cruz Village Panchayat Veterans Cup football tournament played at Santa Cruz ground, on Thursday.

Verna Veterans had an encouraging start with Remy Fernandes providing his team the lead in the 18th minute.

Seven minutes later, Vincent Fernandes scored the insurance goal to put Verna in a commanding position.

In the second session, Varca tried to fight their way back into the match, but the Verna defence stood tall.

In the quarter-finals, Verna will now lock horns with Vasco Veterans on Sunday.

## PGML Kings clinch Ramakant Verlekar Champions Trophy

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**MARGAO:** PGML Kings emerged victorious in a thrilling final defeating MCL Superstars by 7 wickets with 5 balls to spare to claim the Ramakant Verlekar Champions Trophy 2025 organised by the Sunita Verlekar Foundation under floodlights at the Dr Rajendra Prasad Stadium, Margao, recently.

This was the fifth edition of the prestigious tournament. The PGML Kings team featured top players from the Panaji Gymkhana Members League, while MCL Superstars comprised leading players from the Margao Cricket Club's Members Cricket League.

After winning the toss, MCL Superstars elected to bat first, scoring 147/9 in



The champions along with former Indian cricketer and former coach of India's T20 World Cup-winning team Lalchand Rajput, MCC President Yogesh Naik, Kapil Angle and Sunita Verlekar Foundation Trustee Gautam Verlekar and other dignitaries at the Dr Rajendra Prasad Stadium, Margao, recently

## INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

**Best Fielder:** Ramnath Gaonkar  
**Impact Player of the Game:** Balkrishna Hodarkar  
**Best Bowler:** Siddharth Ghanekar  
**Best Batsman:** Siddhesh Alvencar  
**Man of the Match:** Saif Ali Karajgi

Karajgi took two wickets each, while Heramb

Shankar Parab, Om Fadte and Sazu Naik claimed one

wicket apiece.

Chasing the target, PGML Kings secured victory in 19.1 overs, losing 7 wickets. At one stage, they were comfortably placed at 116/3, with Vedant Naik scoring 40 runs off 28 balls. However, a

double strike by Siddharth Ghanekar, dismissing Robin D'Souza (8) and Saif (43 off 34 balls, 2 fours, 2 sixes) in a single over, made the contest exciting.

Siddhesh Alvencar further dented PGML Kings by dismissing captain Muktar Kadri (7) and Ramnath Gaonkar (0). Under pressure, Harshad Gadekar played a crucial unbeaten knock of 22 runs, ensuring victory for his team.

The prize distribution ceremony was graced by former Indian cricketer and former coach of India's T20 World Cup-winning team Lalchand Rajput, currently the head coach of UAE's national team. Other dignitaries included MCC President Yogesh Naik, Kapil Angle and Sunita Verlekar Foundation Trustee Gautam Verlekar, who handed out the awards.

## TODAY'S SPORTS

**GFA Division I League (Group A):** Nuvm SC vs SCC Cavellissim, at Benaullim ground, 4 pm  
**Santa Cruz Village Panchayat Veterans Cup:** Bardez Veterans vs Goa Police, at Santa Cruz ground, 4.30 pm  
**21st Flame of Unity Veterans football tournament (1st semi-final):** Fatorda Veterans vs Vasco Veterans, at Mabai ground, Per-Seraulim, 4.30 pm  
**All Goa Inter-Village United Trophy football:** Cuncolim Union vs Betalbatim Sporting Club, at the Rosary Church ground, Navelim, 4.30 pm

**TOMORROW**  
**LAST SHOW BEFORE GOING TO UK TOUR**  
**05th Apr**  
**07.30 pm**  
**Pai Hall Margao**  
Tickets available at counter